

ILRI in Ethiopia

CGIAR is a global research partnership for a food secure future



Origins

The International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) was created in 1994 from a merger of the International Livestock Centre for Africa (ILCA—based in Ethiopia) and the International Laboratory for Research on Animal Diseases (ILRAD—based in Kenya). Today, ILRI is co-hosted by the governments of Ethiopia and Kenya; the Addis Ababa campus hosts more than a dozen international agricultural research and development institutes as well as ILRI.

Since 1980, ILCA then ILRI worked on a wide range of livestock issues including: pastoral livelihoods, animal genetics and breeding, livestock policy, value chains, animal diseases, animal feeding, innovation systems and livestock-water productivity.

Projects

Project	Aim
Sustainable intensification	
African Chicken Genetic Gains	Improve chicken genetics and the delivery of adapted chickens to support poverty reduction, productivity growth, and increased household animal protein intake.
African Dairy Genetic Gains	Help farmers record and disseminate on-farm productivity and genetic information, leading to sustained productivity gains.
Africa RISING	Sustainably intensified mixed crop-tree-livestock systems in the Ethiopian Highlands.
Designing community-based breeding strategies for indigenous sheep breeds	Improve the productivity and income of resource-poor sheep producers by providing access to improved animals that respond to improved feeding and management.
Forage genebank	Conserves over 19,000 accessions of over 1000 forage species (grasses, legumes, shrubs, trees).
Innovation lab for livestock systems	Improve the quality of animal feed available to smallholder farmers in Ethiopia and Burkina Faso to increase the quality and quantity of animal-source foods for smallholders to both consume and sell.
Innovation Lab on Small-Scale Irrigation	Develop and introduce gender-sensitive, small-scale irrigation systems into food and agriculture production on small farms.
Livestock and irrigation value chains for Ethiopian smallholders (LIVES)	Enhance income and gender equitable wealth creation for smallholders and other value chain actors through increased and sustained market off-take of high-value livestock and irrigated crop commodities
N2Africa: Putting nitrogen fixation to work for smallholder farmers	Increase biological nitrogen fixation and productivity of grain legumes, contributing to enhanced soil fertility, household nutrition and income.
Transforming small ruminant value chains in Ethiopia (CGIAR Research Program on Livestock)	Increase the productivity of small-scale livestock and fish systems in sustainable ways, making eggs, meat, and milk more available and affordable.
Reducing vulnerability	
Dryland restoration scaling	This project develops tools and analysis to measure success in restoring degraded land for use in sustainable crop-livestock farming, helping improve food security and livelihoods of smallholders
Index based livestock insurance (IBLI)	Use IBLI to reduce vulnerability to livestock loss through drought.
Agriculture to nutrition	Deliver positive nutritional outcomes for smallholder farming families through the implementation of robust, evidence-based nutrition-sensitive interventions met through food grown, or income earned, on family farms.

Priorities

Livestock provide poor people with food, income, traction and fertilizer. They can help transform subsistence farming into income-generating enterprises. As demand for milk, meat and eggs is rising rapidly, any adverse effects on the environment and human health must also be mitigated. ILRI research in Ethiopia focuses on:

- Sustainable intensification of mixed crop–livestock systems through increasing productivity and value chain development
- Reduced vulnerability through market development, risk mitigation and livelihood diversification.

ILRI supported the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries (MoLF) to develop a livestock master plan (LMP) to inform its development investment planning, as well as inform the strategies of donors and private investors in Ethiopia. ILRI is now engaging with the government of Ethiopia’s Agricultural Transformation Agency using the recommendations from the LMP to create plans for clusters of local districts. The LMP is a series of five-year development roadmaps for key livestock value chains, with specific strategies and timed activity.

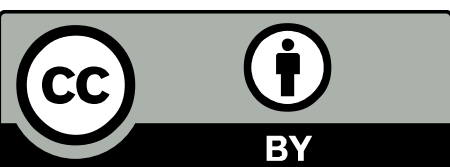


Photo credit: ILRI/Stevie Mann

Major partners

Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research; Ethiopian Institute of Biodiversity; Ethiopian Meat and Dairy Technology Institute; Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources; Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries; Ministry of Water and Energy, Minister of Environment, Forest Development and Climate Change; regional agricultural research centres, and regional bureaus of agriculture, and livestock; universities; CGIAR Research Programs on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security, Livestock, Agriculture for Nutrition and Health; CGIAR genebank and genetics gains platforms; and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

ILRI is supported through the CGIAR Fund. Recent and current projects in Ethiopia have been supported by the governments of Australia, Brazil, Canada, Germany, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the USA, as well as the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and IFAD, among others.



This poster is copyrighted by the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI). It is licensed for use under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International Licence. April 2018